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OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Application of	:
Lee Bolduc	:
Application No. 10/692,282	: DECISION ON PETITIONS
Filed: October 23, 2003	: UNDER 37 CFR 1.78(a)(3) AND (a)(6)
Attorney Docket No. 9494.18398	:

This is a decision on the petitions under 37 CFR §§ 1.78(a)(3) and 1.78(a)(6), filed May 6, 2005, to accept an unintentionally delayed claim under 35 U.S.C. §§120 and 119(e) for the benefit of the prior-filed applications set forth in the concurrently filed amendment.

The petitions are **GRANTED**.

A petition for acceptance of a claim for late priority under 37 CFR §§ 1.78(a)(3) and 1.78(a)(6) is only applicable to those applications filed on or after November 29, 2000. Further, the petition is appropriate only after the expiration of the period specified in 37 CFR §§ 1.78(a)(2)(ii) and 1.78(a)(5)(ii). In addition, the petition under 37 CFR §§ 1.78(a)(3) and 1.78(a)(6) must be accompanied by:

- (1) the reference required by 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and 119(e) and 37 CFR §§ 1.78(a)(2)(i) and 1.78(a)(5)(i) of the prior-filed application, unless previously submitted;
- (2) the surcharge set forth in § 1.17(t); and
- (3) a statement that the entire delay between the date the claim was due under 37 CFR §§ 1.78(a)(2)(ii) and 1.78(a)(5)(ii) and the date the claim was filed was unintentional. The Commissioner may require additional where there is a question whether the delay was unintentional.

This nonprovisional application was pending at the time of filing of the reference to the prior-filed provisional application as required by 37 CFR 1.78(a)(5)(ii). Additionally, intermediate Application No. 10/271,334 was filed on October 13, 2002, within twelve months of the filing date of prior-filed provisional Application No. 60/333,937, which was filed on November 28, 2001, for which priority is claimed.

All the above requirements having been satisfied, the late claim for priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and 119(e) is accepted as being unintentionally delayed.

The granting of the petition to accept the delayed benefit claim to the prior-filed applications under 37 CFR §§ 1.78(a)(3) and 1.78(a)(6) should not be construed as meaning that this application is entitled to the benefit of the filing date of the prior-filed applications. In order for this application to be entitled to the benefit of the prior-filed applications, all other requirements under 35 U.S.C. §§120 and 1.78(a)(1) and (a)(2) and under 35 U.S.C. §119(e) and 37 CFR 1.78(a)(4) and (a)(5) must be met. Similarly, the fact that the corrected Filing Receipt accompanying this decision on petition includes the prior-filed applications should not be construed as meaning that applicant is entitled to the claim for benefit of priority to the prior-filed applications noted thereon. Accordingly, the examiner will, in due course, consider this benefit claim and determine whether the application is entitled to the benefit of the earlier filing date.

A corrected Filing Receipt, which includes the priority claim to the prior-filed applications, accompanies this decision on petition.

Any questions concerning this matter may be directed to Marianne Jenkins at (571) 272-3223. All other inquiries concerning either the examination procedures or status of the application should be directed to the Technology Center.

This application is being forwarded to Technology Center Art Unit 3738 for appropriate action on the amendment submitted May 6, 2005, including consideration by the examiner of the claim under 35 U.S.C. §§120 and 119(e) of the prior-filed nonprovisional and provisional applications.



Frances M. Hicks

Lead Petitions Examiner

Office of Petitions

Office of the Deputy Commissioner

for Patent Examination Policy

ATTACHMENT : Corrected Filing Receipt